

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3438
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
SOIL TESTING LABORATORIES
KUMUDINI PATNAIK;PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a): whether the present number of soil testing laboratories are inadequate to cover the entire length and breadth of the country;
- (b): if so, the details thereabout, State-wise;
- (c): the measures the Government propose to take to increase the number of these laboratories;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to introduce soil health card to each farmer;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps the Government propose to take to promote and improve horticulture in the hilly tracks of Orissa?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): A total of 533 soil testing laboratories are working in different states with a capacity to analyze 8.0 million soil samples per year. State-wise details of soil testing laboratories are given in Annexure-I. Considering the number of farm holdings being about 106 million in the country, the soil testing capacity is progressively being strengthened. Grants were provided to States under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Balanced & Integrated use of Fertilizers to strengthen the soil-testing programme in the country. After the transfer of this Scheme to States to be implemented under macro management mode, States are being advised to continue to strengthen this activity.

(d) & (e): A format of 'Soil Health Card' was circulated by the Ministry to the States in March 2000 with the advise to make the soil health cards available to farmers in local languages. States have started issuing the cards to the farmers. States wise status is indicated in Annexure-II.

(f): The National Horticulture Board under its Scheme 'Development of Commercial Horticulture through Production and Post-Harvest Management' provides assistance in the form of back-ended capital subsidy @ 20% of total project cost with maximum limit of Rs.25 lakhs. This scheme is applicable for hilly tracks of Orissa also.

Besides, the State Govt. of Orissa is taking up horticultural programmes under the Scheme 'Macro Management in Agriculture - supplementation/ complementation of states efforts through Work Plans. These programmes are applicable for hilly tracks in Orissa also.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE TO THE LOK SABHA QUESTION NO.3438 BY SMT. KUMUDINI PATNAIK AND SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH
FOR ANSWER ON 15.4.2002

SOIL TESTING LABORATORIES IN THE COUNTRY (1999-2000)

SL.NO	NAME OF THE STATE	NO. OF SOIL TESTING LABORATORIES	ANNUAL ANALYZING CAPACITY (NO.)
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STATIC MOBILE TOTAL

A. LABORATORIES WITH STATES

I. SOUTH ZONE

1. Andhra Pradesh	23	4	27	513000
2. Karnataka	21	3	24	555000
3. Kerala	13	7	20	340000
4. Tamil Nadu	19	16	25	903000
5. Pondicherry	2	-	2	20000
6. A & N Islands	1	-	1	12000
7 Daman & Diu	-	-	-	-
8. Lakshadweep	-	-	-	-

TOTAL 79 30 109 2343000

II. WEST ZONE

9. Gujarat	16	5	21	270000
10. Madhya Pradesh	20	5	25	342000
11. Maharashtra	29	-	29	287000
12. Rajasthan	8	12	20	313000
13. Goa	1	1	2	28000
14. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	-	1	1000

TOTAL 75 23 98 1241000

III. NORTH ZONE

15. Haryana	25	-	25	351000
16. Punjab	48	13	61	795000
17. Himachal Pradesh	11	-	11	130000
18. Uttar Pradesh	56	15	71	1275000
19. Jammu & Kashmir	3	3	6	56000
20. Delhi	1	-	1	6000
21. Chandigarh	-	-	-	-

TOTAL 144 31 175 2613000

IV. EAST ZONE

22. Bihar	30	2	32	380000
23. Orissa	11	-	11	270000
24. West Bengal	13	4	17	191000

TOTAL 54 6 60 841000

V. NORTH-EAST ZONE

25. Assam	7	4	11	156000
26. Tripura	5	1	6	70000
27. Manipur	3	1	4	55000
28. Nagaland	3	-	3	50000
29. Arunachal Pradesh	1	-	1	10000
30. Meghalaya	3	1	4	50000
31. Sikkim	1	1	2	23000
32. Mizoram	1	-	1	18500

TOTAL 24 8 32 432500

GRAND TOTAL 376 98 474 7470500

B. LABORATORIES WITH 39 20 59 544700
FERTILIZER INDUSTRIES

TOTAL ALL INDIA (A+B) 412 118 533 8015200

Annexure-II

ANNEXURE TO THE LOK SABHA QUESTION NO.3438 BY SMT. KUMUDINI PATNAIK AND SHRI PRABHUNATH SING FOR ANSWER ON 15.4.2002

SOIL HEALTH CARD STATUS POSITION

S.No. States/UTs Action taken/ proposed to be taken

1. Kerala The State Government has proposed to distribute soil health cards to the farmers for which Rs.10.00 lakhs have been provided during 2001-2002
2. Punjab The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
3. Karnataka The State Govt. has issued 45.15 lakh soil fertility cards to the farmers.
4. Rajasthan The State Government has informed that they are printing approx.1.25 lakh soil health cards for distribution to the farmers.
5. Tamil Nadu The State Government has informed that they are printing approx.1.33 lakh soil health cards for distribution to the farmers.
6. Orissa The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
- 7 Pondicherry The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
8. D & N Havelli The UT has already started issuing soil health cards to farmers.

9. Lakshadweep The UT intends to take on issuance of soil health card to farmers.
10. Manipur The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
11. Maharashtra The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
12. Andhra Pradesh The State has intimated that 10,000 soil health cards will be issued to the farmers.
13. Himachal Pradesh The State has issued the soil health cards to all soil testing officers for seeking their comments.
14. Uttar Pradesh The State has already prepared its own soil health card and propose to issue to the State Govts.
15. Madhya Pradesh The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
16. Assam The State is already in the practice of issuing soil health cards in local languages to the farmers.
17. Tripura The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
18. Gujarat The State Govt. has targeted to distribute about 15,000 soil health cards to farmers per year.
19. Goa The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
20. West Bengal The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.
21. Nagaland The State has informed that the soil health card have been endorsed and suitable instructions have been given to the Incharge of the State Laboratories.
22. Haryana The State has informed that 120 soil health cards have been issued to the Water Users Association (WUA) in the State.
23. A&N Islands The State has initiated the process of issuing the soil health cards to farmers.